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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/021,574	12/19/2001	Jack Brass	16224.00046	1008

7590 02/09/2006

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1025 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20007-5201

EXAMINER
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VALENTIN, JUAN D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2877

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/021,574

Applicant(s)

BRASS, JACK

Examiner

Juan D. Valentin II

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on RCE 11/23/2005.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 35-43 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 35-43 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

1. In response to applicant's declaration of unexpected results and argument that the reference fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., novel wavelength range (395-415 nm) which does not match the wavelength of the dye being excited) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). As discussed over the telephone with Rick Bauer and Robert Wilkes, it is the position of the office that the distinct and novel feature of applicants invention has not been claimed. Applicants argument and showing of unexpected results rest in the fact that no matter what fluorescent dye is used, the wavelength range of excitation light need not match the wavelength range of the particular dye in use. However valid applicants argument might be, the claims still fail to reflect this relationship found by applicant. Therefore, the rejection set forth in the previous Office action is maintained and repeated below.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

1. Claims 35-43 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kalley, et al., U.S. Pat. No. 6,590,220 (8 Jul. 2003), in view of Applicant's admissions of prior art.

**Claims 35-43**

Kalley discloses that a lamp in the form of a flashlight may be used to detect leaks in, *inter alia*, fluid systems, such as air conditioning units (col. 1, line 15; col. 1, line 22; col. 1, lines 45-62). Kalley discloses that the lighting source should be in the form of LED's, which may emit in the UV range (i.e. below 400 nm), as well as in the visible range (i.e. 400 to 500 nm) (see col. 1, lines 50-52; col. 2, lines 3-5; col. 4, lines 28-30; col. 4, lines 54-56). Therefore, Kalley explicitly provides for particular narrow bandwidths *within* the broader illustrative ranges in the visible and UV spectra. Accordingly, Applicant has claimed a particular range of 395-415 nm, however, such range falls within the range already set forth in Kalley. See MPEP §2144.05, (In the case where the claimed ranges 'overlap or lie inside ranges disclosed by the prior art' a prima facie case of obviousness exists), citing In re Wertheim, 541 F.2d 257, 191USPQ 90 (CCPA 1976); In re Woodruff, 919 F.2d 1575, 16 USPQ2d 1934 (Fed.Cir. 1990). Concerning the spectral range, it should also be emphasized that particular fluorescent dyes may require a particular spectral range. Therefore, those practicing the Kalley invention would likely expect that the spectral output of the lighting device (and thus the particular LED's) would be selected depending on which dye is present, and would thus be somewhat variable. Note also, that although Kalley discloses embodiments in which filters are used in connection with the generation of light of the desired wavelength to fluoresce leak detection fluids, Kalley also explicitly discloses that the LED's may be selected to have a narrow spectral output, so as to

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avoid the need for filters (col. 4, lines 54-56; col. 8, lines 13-33). Kalley discloses that the LED's can be of a type in which the angle light emitted forms an angle of +/- 35 degrees, or less, as is desirable by those practicing the invention (col. 8, lines 33-41). See MPEP §2144.05, (In the case where the claimed ranges 'overlap or lie inside ranges disclosed by the prior art' a prima facie case of obviousness exists), citing In re Wertheim, 541 F.2d 257, 191USPQ 90 (CCPA 1976); In re Woodruff, 919 F.2d 1575, 16 USPQ2d 1934 (Fed.Cir. 1990). Moreover, Applicants do not disclose that the particular range provides a new and unexpected result over the prior art, thus the range claimed is a non-critical limitation. The MPEP §2144.05(III) states that, "the applicant must show that the particular range is critical, generally by showing that the claimed range achieves unexpected results relative to the prior art range." In re Woodruff, 919 F.2d 1575, 16 USPQ2d 1934 (Fed. Cir. 1990). See MPEP §716.02 - §716.02(g) for a discussion of criticality and unexpected results. Accordingly, the modification claimed over the prior art would have been obvious to those skilled in the art at the time of the invention. Continuing now with the discussion of the Kalley reference, Kalley discloses that the LED's may be a single LED, or an array (col. 8, line 54). Kalley discloses that the device comprises a housing (Fig. 7), and that the open end has at least one LED disposed such that the light emits outward. Kalley discloses that the LED's may be a single LED, or an array (col. 8, line 54), without limitation as the number of LED's. Therefore, those practicing the Kalley invention would expect to have additional LED's numbering at least 20, as might be necessary to cause the particular fluorescent dye to fluoresce. See MPEP §2144.04(VI)(B), citing, In re Harza, 274 F.2d 669, 124 USPQ 378 (CCPA 1960) (mere duplication of parts has no patentable significance unless a new and unexpected result is produced.). Kalley illustrates that the lighting elements direct light directly

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out of the unit, without reflecting on the lighting elements, such as the LED's (Fig. 7). Kalley illustrates that the flashlight may be in the form of a handheld/untethered unit (Fig. 7). Although the Kalley reference discloses an array of LED's, the reference does not explicitly disclose that the cluster of LED's draws a total power of 7.2 Watts. However, the Kalley reference discloses that the array may be preferably 4-16 commercially available UV LED's (col. 8, line 33), such as those available from American Opto Plus LED's or Kwaliti Electronics. The instant Specification suggests Nichia Corporation as a source for LED's (Specification, pg. 14), and wherein Applicant admits that such LED's are known to draw 0.2 Watts of power. Accordingly, since the Kalley reference explicitly suggests at least a plurality of LED's, generally in the range of 4-20, the total power consumption for the Kalley device using Nichia LED's would be less than 7.2 Watt. Therefore, the limitation would have been obvious to those of skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Applicant's admissions of prior art. Although the Kalley reference discloses an array of LED's, the reference does not explicitly disclose that the cluster of LED's is less than 2 inches in diameter. The instant Specification suggests that as many as 36 Nichia LED's may be used in such a configuration (Specification, pg. 14), thus the diameter of each Nichia LED would be approximately 3 to 5 mm. The Kalley reference discloses that the array may be 4-20 commercially available UV LED's (col. 8, line 33), such as those available from American Opto Plus LED's or Kwaliti Electronics. Such LED's are merely exemplary of those commercially available, and those practicing the invention would understand the disclosure to permit the inclusion of other commercially available LED's. Therefore, substituting another commercially available configuration of 20 Nichia LED's would result in a diameter of

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approximately 2 inches. Therefore, the limitation would have been obvious to those of skill in the art at the time of the invention, in view of Applicant's admissions of prior art.

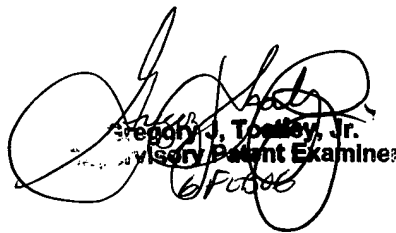
### *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Juan D. Valentin II whose telephone number is (571) 272-2433. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory J. Toatley, Jr. can be reached on (571) 272-2800 ext. 77. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Juan D Valentin II  
Examiner 2877  
JDV  
February 6, 2006

  
Gregory J. Toatley, Jr.  
Supervisory Patent Examiner